AQUA★COMICS

遅く咲く花

羽原ちより

CHIYORI HANEHARA

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オークラ出版

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遅く咲く花

"What's going on? I just don't get it. Ever since I met Hashimoto, my heart's been filled with emotions I've never felt before..."

Since meeting Hashimoto, whose personality is the complete opposite of his, which is flippant and cold to others, high school student, Makino, can no longer hide the changes within his heart.

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Jigoku

Dsoku Saku Hana

Chuyoru Hanehara

Chap 1a

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Osoku Saku Hana contents

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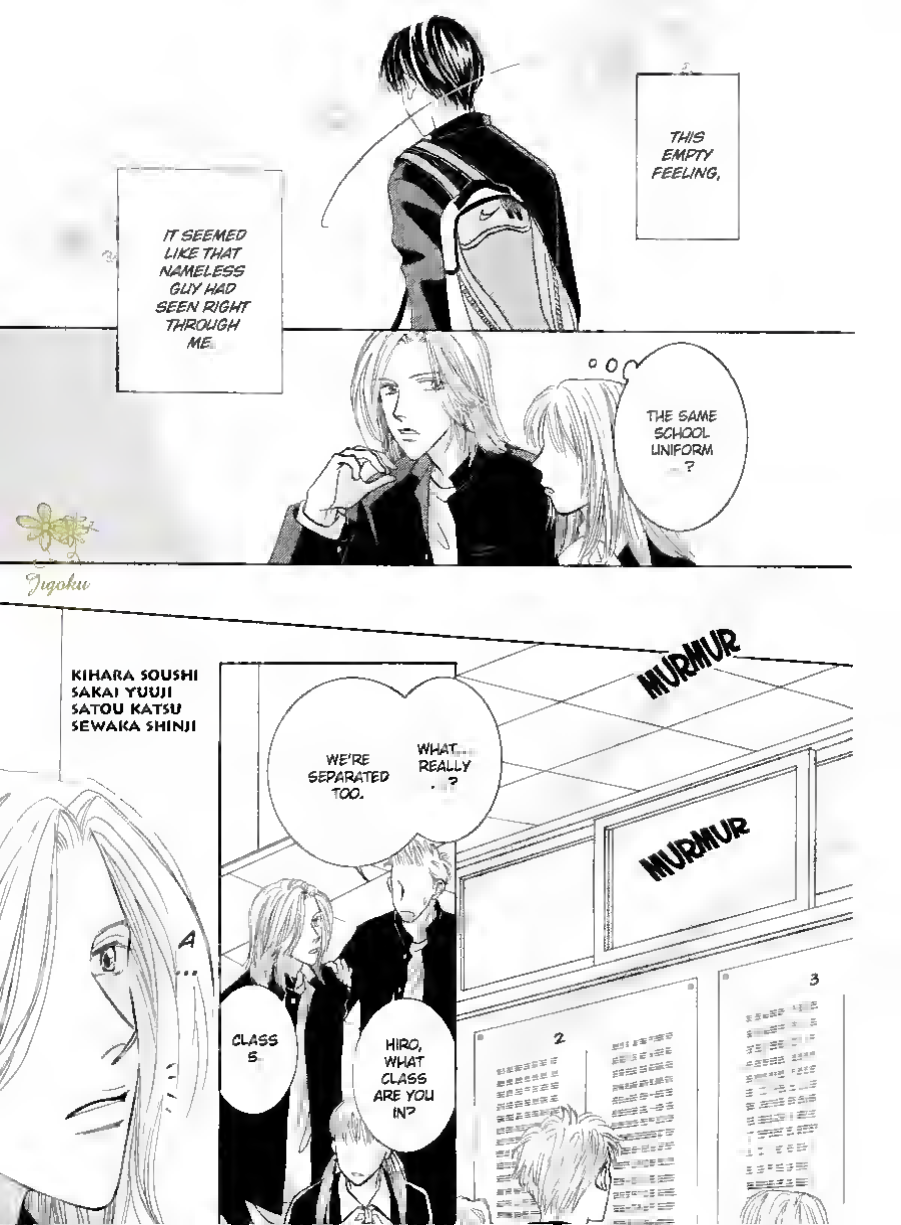
CHIYORI HANEHARA

Osoku
Saku
Hana

AT THAT MOMENT, I BEGAN TO REALIZE MY HEART WOULD NEVER BE FILLED.
Are you listening to me !?


THIS EMPTY FEELING,
IT SEEMED LIKE THAT NAMELESS GUY HAD SEEN RIGHT THROUGH ME.
THE SAME SCHOOL UNIFORM ...?
Jigoku
KIHARA SOUSHI
SAKAI YUUJI
SATOU KATSU
SEWAKA SHINJI
MURMUR
MURMUR
WHAT... REALLY ...?
WE'RE SEPARATED TOO.
CLASS 5.
HIRO, WHAT CLASS ARE YOU IN?
A...
2
3

KICK
WHOA!
YUUJI!
YO! WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN.
I SAW YOUR NAME ON THE NOTICE ON THE WALL,
AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS FINALLY FREE OF YOUR EVIL CLUTCHES.
COME OFF IT!
YOU'RE ACTUALLY HAPPY,
BE A LITTLE MORE HONEST ABOUT IT!
HEY, THAT HURTS MAN, WHITE FLAG !!
OH.
Jigoku

HUH?
OVER HERE, HASHI MOTO!
Tigoku
EH !?
thump
I KNOW.
HASHI MOTO, THIS IS MY MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSMATE
HE'S MY BUDDY FROM MY FIRST YEAR, HASHIMOTO TATSUKI.
HE'S FROM THAT DAY!

OH, SO THAT'S WHY.
WHAT? DO I TALK ABOUT HIRO THAT MUCH?
WHEN WE FIRST MET, YOU'D ALWAYS SLIP HIS NAME IN.
YOU'RE MAKINO HIROTAKA, RIGHT.
YUUJI TALKS A LOT ABOUT YOU.
TAKE GOOD CARE OF ME FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS.
HUH? REALLY?
I'M SOMEWHAT TAKEN ABACK
SO HE'S YUUJI'S FRIEND

HE'S FIRST IN NATURAL SCIENCE.
OH, SO YOU LIKE ACADEMIC DUDES!
YOU'RE SO SIMPLE-MINDED, YOU PROBABLY THINK SMART GUYS ARE AMAZING PEOPLE.
YOU IDIOT, THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON!
HEY! I'M A NICE GUY TOO!
BUT HE LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THE NICE GUYS, COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM YOU, YUUJI.
MAYBE IT'S 'CAUSE I DON'T KNOW HASHIMOTO THAT WELL,
I THOUGHT HE WAS A HONOR STUDENT AND ALL BUT HIS ENGLISH GRADES SUCK ASS,
THEY'RE EVEN LOWER THAN MINE.
DON'T YOU THINK HE'S AN INTERESTING GUY, BEING SO UNBAL-ANCE?
RIGHT?
HUH... WELL IT IS KINDA SURPRISING
Tigaku

OH, AND YOU WOULD NEVER GUESS THIS ---
PLUS, ON THE SURFACE HE LOOKS MATURE,
BUT REALLY, HE'S KINDA MEAN SOMETIMES.
WELL... I CAN SEE WHY YUUJI WOULD WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH HIM
OH ...
BUT WE HAVE A LOT OF SIMILAR INTERESTS.
BUT IT'S MINDBOGGLING TO THINK HE COULD BE PART OF YUUJI'S WORLD.
2 - 5
DID YOU FINISH YOUR HOMEWORK, HASHIMOTO? CAN I SEE IT?
SURE, HERE YOU GO.
THANKS!
THAT WAS NICE.
NOT AGAIN...

BUT WITH THAT 2-DIGIT IQ OF HIS, HE'LL PROBABLY NEVER FIGURE IT OUT.
HE ONLY COPIES HOMEWORK WHEN IT COMES TO THE REAL THING, HE'S THE ONE WHO'LL SCREW HIMSELF OVER. SEE HOW HE KEEPS TAKING MAKE-UP EXAMS?
SO WHAT?
REALLY ?
THAT GUY'S PROBABLY NEVER EVEN CRACKED OPEN A BOOK.
He was like that in our first year.
SO THIS IS THE NOT-SO-NICE-GUY SIDE...
HAHA, THAT'S TRUE.
Jigoku
I WONDER...
WHAT THAT FEELING WAS, THE FIRST TIME WE LOOKED INTO EACH OTHER'S EYES?

.....
SORRY, YOU GUYS GO AHEAD AND EAT FIRST!
OK.
HEY, SAKAI, TOUPEE'S LOOKING FOR YOU!
HUH? REALLY?
THERE WAS NO SOUND, BUT BEFORE I KNOW IT, A DOOR WAS SUDDENLY OPENED.
I'VE NEVER BEEN ALONE WITH HIM. I'M FEELING PRETTY NERVOUS...
CREAK
HEY MAKINO!!
ARE YOU ALL SETTLED IN YOUR NEW CLASS?
YEAH, I'M DOING ALL RIGHT!

IT'S TOO BAD YOU'RE NOT IN THE SAME CLASS AS SUZU.
UH... YEAH...
IS SUZU YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S NAME?
!
I SAW YOU TWO HANGING WITH EACH OTHER A COUPLE OF TIMES
WHAT?
THAT WAS IN THE PAST.
THEY PROBABLY DON'T KNOW BUT WE BROKE UP NOT TOO LONG AGO.

Chuckle
YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE AGONIZING OVER THIS, ONLY POPULAR GUYS CAN DO THAT.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
NOW, DATING GIRLS BECOMES TROUBLE-SOME.
SO I PROBABLY WON'T BE DATING ANYTIME SOON...
I THINK I MENTIONED THIS BEFORE,
YUUJI WOULD ALWAYS BRING YOU UP,
HASHI MOTO ....
HE CALLS YUUJI BY HIS FIRST-NAME??
YOU WERE POPULAR, AND GIRLS ALWAYS FLOCKED TO YOU.

THEY'RE FRIENDS... SO IT'S NOT THAT SURPRISING...
I MEAN ...I CALL HIM YUUJI TOO...
AT FIRST GLANCE, YOU LOOK QUITE FLASHY, AND I REMEMBER YUUJI HATING PEOPLE LIKE YOU,
SO I THOUGHT IT WAS REALLY WEIRD THAT YOU TWO ARE FRIENDS.
WELL, SO SORRY ABOUT THAT...
BUT THE TRUTH IS, YOU JUST GO AT YOUR OWN PACE,
AND THAT'S WHY YUUJI LOOKS UP TO YOU.
And 'cause you're really cool too.
YOU KNOW HE'S A PRETTY SIMPLE-MINDED GUY.
LOOKS UP TO ME
WELL, I CAN'T GET IT UP.
Is that still cool?
.....

IF HE HEARD THAT, HE'D BE HAPPY.
You know.
PAF
THAT'S NOT MY INTEN-TION!
I KNEW YOU WERE MESSING WITH ME.
WHAT? WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
NOT TELLING YOU.
HEY, DON'T LEAVE ME HANGING! THAT'S JUST WRONG, YOU KNOW!

Are you guy still children??

HE'S REALLY EASY TO TALK TO...
I PRETTY MUCH GET WHY YUUJI'S SUCH GOOD FRIENDS WITH HIM.
MAKINO, YOU JUST GO AT YOUR OWN PACE
I WONDER WHAT HE'D SAY IF I TOLD HIM THE REASON I ACT THIS WAY?

You're kidding me?
You're 12?
GRADE-SCHOOLER GETTING HIT ON
BECAUSE PUBERTY HIT EARLY, LOTS OF OLDER GIRLS WOULD COME ONTO ME
MY FIRST TIME WAS IN 6TH GRADE
WITH MY BROTHER'S GIRLFRIEND
I was sucked dry
NO ONE EVER TELLS ME ABOUT THOSE THINGS, SO I WAS PRETTY SHOCKED.
WELL, THAT'S...
I MIGHT HAVE LOOKED LIKE A GROWN-UP BUT I WAS STILL A KID.
I CONVINCED MYSELF, THIS WASN'T A BIG DEAL BY MIDDLE SCHOOL, MY POLICY WAS TO NEVER TURN DOWN ANYONE,
BUT SLOWLY, I WAS BECOMING DISTANT WITH EVERYTHING, AND THERE WAS THIS NAGGING SENSE OF FEELING OFF-BALANCE,
GROWING STRONGER AND STRONGER ...
MORN-ING.

THE TRUTH BEHIND THIS OFF-BALANCE FEELING,
I HAVE A FEELING HASHIMOTO KNOWS WHY...
MORN-ING.
HASHI MOTO, NEXT TIME...
MORN-ING!
HM?
AHA! YOU GUYS ARE WHISPERING ABOUT STUFF AGAIN !!
Tell me!
WE DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING.
SORRY, MAKINO,
YOU DIDN'T FINISH WHAT YOU WERE SAYING. SO WHAT WAS IT?
IT'S HARDER FOR ME TO OPEN MY MOUTH WHEN HE ASKS ME LIKE THAT...
IT'S NOTHING.

NO WAY!
BUT WHY DO I...
EVEN THINK ABOUT HASHIMOTO THAT MUCH?
AREN'T THEY INSISTING ON SOFTWARE, RATHER THAN HARDWARE?
IS IT BECAUSE OF HOW I FELT AT THAT TIME AND SO NOW I'M AFFECTED BY IT ..
IN THE FIRST PLACE, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO CHANGE WHAT YOU LIKE!
Damn----
FOR NOW I'LL WAIT AND SEE UNTIL IT COMES UP WITH NEW VERSION
AH ..
THIS GUY. .
WHEN HE'S LOOKING DOWN, HIS EYELASHES ARE REALLY LONG

IT'S NOTHING, I JUST THINK YOUR EYES ARE BEAUTIFUL
WOA
!?
OH!
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU KEEP STARING AT MY FACE FOR?
I wonder if he plucks them
THE SHAPE OF HIS EYE-BROWS IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL
I DON'T HIT ON GIRLS WITH THOSE LINES.
HEY, QUIT SAYING LINES YOU USE TO MAKE YOUR MOVES ON GIRLS !!
Whisf-
THAT'S EVEN MORE REVOLTING
IT'S TRUE I'M ACTING WEIRD...
WHAT? IS HE MAD...?

ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS HASHI MOTO.
I'VE NEVER REALLY LOOKED CLOSELY AT ALL THE WOMEN I'VE BEEN WITH IN THE PAST.
BEFORE I KNEW IT, MY EYES WERE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HIM.
Jigoku
AH
HIS NECK IS KIND OF RED...
MAKINO ?
WHOA !

OH... UH...
JUST THEN
YOUR NECK! YOUR NECK'S ALL RED!
DID I JUST REACH OUT TO TOUCH HIM?
OH, THE UNIFORM COLLAR KEEPS CHAFING ME.
BA
NG
WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING!?
OUCH!
MAKINO... THAT'S KINDA OLD SCHOOL TO HIT YOUR HEAD LIKE THAT...
THERE REALLY IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME?
I'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO STOP THESE THOUGHTS,
AH!
OR IT'S GOING TO BE AN ONE-WAY TICKET TO HELL...

HE'S PROBABLY A STRAY...
YEAH, PROBABLY, OR HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN TIED UP HERE.
PANT
PANT
WAG
WAG
HUH? THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS DOG?
RUN
RUN
IT'S A DOG! RUFF, RUFF!
YOU POOR DOG, I'LL SAVE YOU.
Animal lover
IF YOU CAN'T TAKE OF HIM, THEN DON'T BE SO NICE TO HIM.
I KNOW YOU'RE RIGHT BUT STILL...
SAVE HIM— YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE HIM HOME?
YOUR FAMILY LIVES IN AN APART-MENT.

CAN'T WE THINK OF SOMETHING FOR HIM?
POOR DOG...
REALLY? YOU WILL?
YEAH.
BUT IF IT'S JUST FOR A SHORT TIME, HE CAN STAY WITH US, UNTIL WE FIND HIM A NEW OWNER, OKAY?
MY MOM HATES DOGS SO I CAN'T KEEP HIM.

AND ...
WITH WHAT HAPPENED BACK THERE, I WAS THE ONLY COLD, UNFEELING ONE...
2-5
IT SEEMS LIKE ...
HASHIMOTO, HASHIMOTO,
DID YOU GO TO THE WEBSITE I TOLD YOU ABOUT?
YEAH BUT IT WASN'T ANY FUN
SEEMS LIKE THAT SUGGES-TION IS FOR YUUJI'S SAKE?
WHAT WEBSITE?
AH--- THE HP SITE
YOU DON'T HAVE A COMPUTER, MAKINO?
NO...
YOU SHOULD BUY ONE TOO, HIRO, SO WE CAN ALL PLAY ONLINE!
FINDING WEIRD WEBSITES IS THE NEW "IN" THING TO DO.
YUUJI'S PRETTY GOOD AT FINDING THEM

I DIDN'T HANG OUT WITH YUUJI MUCH, OVER THE LAST YEAR.
flip
AND I JUST MET HASHIMOTO, SO IT'S PRETTY NORMAL BUT..
WHOA, COMPUTERS ARE THAT EXPENSIVE?
.....
BEST
WHY AM I SO JEALOUS OF THEIR FRIENDSHIP?
AHHH... I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
I'm not a little kid anymore
SINCE MEETING HASHIMOTO, I'VE BEEN FEELING A LOT OF THINGS I NEVER FELT BEFORE...
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING..
I DON'T GET IT

MAKINO KUN
NOT BEING ABLE TO GET A WORD IN BETWEEN THE TWO IS WHAT'S MAKING ME LONELY,
OR MAYBE ...
GIRLS, THEY KEEP COMING ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY, DOES HE HAVE A CHICK MAGNET ON HIM OR SOMETHING?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
Laughs
I LIKE YOU, MAKINO KUN !

I HEAR YOU'RE SINGLE RIGHT NOW,
SO ...
EVEN AT THIS MOMENT,
I'M THINKING OF HASHIMOTO
WHY'D YOU TURN HER DOWN? IT'S REALLY RARE
I SAY NO WHEN I WANT TO, TOO

WHA . WHAT ?
NOTHING
?
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE VIDEO.
OH YEAH, WHERE DID WE LEAVE OFF ANY-WAYS?
IT WAS PRETTY DAMN SCARY!!
I THINK THERE'S A VIDEO STORE BY MY PLACE THAT HAS IT.
HIRO, DOESN'T YOUR OLDER BROTHER HAVE A COPY TOO?
HUH? WHAT??
IT'S CALLED "CRIMSON HOME"
Are you listening to me?
OH, UH YEAH, I HAVE IT
I'LL LEND IT TO YOU NEXT TIME.
Jigoku

DI-NG DO-NG
DA-NG DO-NG
2-5
HASHI MOTO'S COMING OVER..
WHY DON'T WE JUST GO OVER TO YOUR PLACE AND WATCH IT ?
AH, IT'S FINE
HOW ABOUT YOU, HASHI-MOTO?
SURE, I'VE NEVER BEEN OVER TO MAKINO'S HOUSE BEFORE.
HIRO !!
WHAT AM I SO EXCITED ABOUT ?
SORRY, I KNOW I'M THE ONE WHO SUG-GESTED TO COME OVER TO YOUR PLACE TODAY BUT...
SOMETHING CAME UP SO I CAN'T !
WHAT?
HEY, WAIT, YUUji!
RUN
RUN
RUN
GOTTA GO, LATER!

What's with him?
HUH? WHAT'S UP WITH YUUJI?
OH.. HE SAID HE CAN'T COME OVER TO MY PLACE TODAY TO WATCH THE VIDEO.
WHAT? HOW COULD HE DO THAT?
HE'S THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED IT IN THE FIRST PLACE!
IF YUUJI ISN'T COMING, DOES THAT MEAN ASHIMOTO'S NOT COMING EITHER...?
WE CAN JUST WATCH IT ANOTHER DAY.
HUH? WHY?
HE ALREADY WATCHED IT ANYWAYS.
NO BIGGIE, WE'LL JUST GO OVER TO YOUR PLACE.

KYA
Who's that
Who's that
?!
PFFT
CREAK
OH...
HASHI-MOTO...
ARE YOU ALWAYS LIKE THIS WHENEVER YOU WATCH HORROR FILMS?
SORRY, SORRY
I ALWAYS LAUGH WHENEVER I FIND SCREW-UPS IN THE MOVIE.
IT'S PROBABLY BEST IF YOU DON'T TAKE GUYS LIKE ME TO WATCH HORROR FILMS.
HA HA HA
YOU'RE A PRETTY FUNNY GUY!!

HE SHOWS EVERYTHING HE FEELS, ON HIS FACE.
HMM... THAT'S TRUE ..
HE EVEN CRIES WHEN ANIMALS GET PUT DOWN
HASHIMOTO'S A PRETTY COOL GUY...
YUUJI'S A TOTAL WUSS,
AND HE SCREAMS A LOT SO I NEVER GO TO THE MOVIES WITH HIM
HE'S REALLY LIKE A DOG HIMSELF, RIGHT? HE'S FRIENDLY WITH PEOPLE,
AND INSIDE, HE'S ACTUALLY A LOT DIFFERENT FROM HOW HE LOOKS,
SO I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT IT'S FUN TO HANG OUT WITH HIM
HE LOOKS REALLY HAPPY...

CLENCH
OH, SPEAKING OF DOGS, I ALREADY TOLD YUUJI.
I FOUND SOMEONE WHO WILL TAKE CARE OF THE STRAY DOG WE PICKED UP LAST TIME,
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ANYMORE, MAKINO.
HASHI MOTO,DO YOU LIKE YUUJI?
WHAT THE---
GRAB
THIS IS WHAT I MEAN BY "LIKE".
LIKE?
?

WAIT, MAKINO, STOP MESSING AROUND!
LET GO!
!?
BITE
OWW! ...
THAT HURTS.. MAKINO!!

MUFFU
UN!
HASHI
MOTO
!!
STRIKE
PANT
Jigoku

DASH
THUD
SLAM
I'M THE ONE WHO LIKES HIM!!
AND I FORCED HIM DOWN BECAUSE I WAS JEALOUS!

I'M THE LOWEST OF THE LOW
I JUST WANTED TATSUKI TO LOOK AT ME ONLY
BUT I .. COULDN'T MAKE HIM UNDERSTAND THAT-----

HUH?
HASHI MOTO ...
WHAT'S WITH THE LONG FACE?
IGNORES
.....
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, ABOUT YESTERDAY,
I RECEIVED A TEXT MESSAGE ON MY CELL PHONE
FROM A GIRL I CONFESSED TO.
HE HE HE ♡

Jigoku

SHE DIDN'T REPLY AND I WAS PREPARING TO GIVE UP.
YOU HAVE SOMEBODY YOU LIKE?
WHAT? I DIDN'T TELL YOU?
THAT GIRL'S A MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSMATE OF HASHI MOTO'S.
HASHIMOTO HELPED ME OUT A LOT FROM BEHIND THE SCENES.
HASHI-MOTO!!
I'LL INTRODUCE HER TO YOU NEXT TIME ...
GRAB
!?

MURMUR
WHAT? HOW HASHIMOTO FELT??
HASHI MOTO, HE...
YOU ASSHOLE! YOU DION'T EVEN THINK ABOUT HOW HASHIMOTO FELT!
BANG

Jigoku

MAKINO, COME OVER HERE !!
?
?
WHAT?? HASHIMO TO?!

ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY, TOO...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU'D BE THAT DUMB ABOUT IT...
AS FOR YUUJI,
IT'S NOT LIKE WHAT YOU THOUGHT YESTERDAY.
Piqued
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MISUNDERSTOOD THAT
WHAT??
BUT THERE IS NO WAY I COULD FALL FOR YUUJI. PLEASE DON'T COME UP WITH SUCH REVOLTING JOKES
I like him as a friend

BLUSH
I COMPLETELY FOOLED MYSELF!!
SO
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY YESTERDAY, EXPLAIN YOURSELF.
EXPLAIN...
I
I'M SORRY I JUMPED ON YOU SO SUDDENLY,
IT'S BECAUSE I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU.
AND I WAS REALLY JEALOUS SO I DID IT.

MAKINO ...
I'M MAKING IT CLEAR TO YOU THAT I LIKE YOU MORE THAN A FRIEND!
I'M ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT YOU,
AND I KNOW THAT EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A MAN...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN SO NERVOUS,
I HOPE THAT HASHIMOTO ONLY SEES ME,
SORRY... THIS ISN'T A REALLY GOOD EXPLANATION ...
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN WATCHING YOU, MAKINO

YUUJI MENTION YOU TO ME, AND THEN I SAW YOU...
WHAT?
I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU EVEN BEFORE WE MET EACH OTHER
YOU ALWAYS LOOKED BORED,
AND THOUGH YOU WERE NEVER ALONE,
I FELT LIKE YOU WERE ALL BY YOURSELF.. NO MATTER WHO YOU WERE WITH.
I WANTED TO KNOW, WHY WAS THAT?

HASHIMOTO SAW RIGHT THROUGH ME FROM THE START
I KNEW IT...IT'S JUST AS I THOUGHT
AHH
I DON'T KNOW...
IF THIS IS THE ANSWER YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.
HASHIMOTO ...CAN I HOLD YOU...?
WHAT?
BECAUSE OF HASHIMOTO, I FEEL LIKE I'M COMPLETE...

I DIDN'T KNOW IT COULD FEEL THIS GOOD.
IN THE PAST, I NEVER HELD SOMEONE WITH ALL MY HEART.
.....
WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO ME.
THE ANSWER IS REALLY SO SIMPLE.
HASHI MOTO ..IS THE ANSWER
THIS ...
...IS THE FIRST TIME I'M HOLDING SOMEONE I LOVE...
Jigoku

OH, I'M SORRY,
I HELD YOU WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION.
PUSH
IT'S OKAY.
I MEAN. .IT'S NOT LIKE I HATED IT.
REALLY ??
IT...
FELT REALLY NICE...

I... I DON'T KNOW!
DOES THAT MEAN... YOU LIKE ME TOO?
BUT I DON'T HATE YOU.
HUG
Remove
SORRY, HERE ..
!!
OH...

FLINCH
MM...
CAN... I KISS YOU?
AL-THOUGH HE NEVER SAID YES
I COULD SEE HIM LOWERING THOSE LONG EYELASHES OF HIS...

THIS IS THE WARMEST KISS I'VE EVER EXPERENCED
Nervous
Nervous
WHAT, WHAT... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
COULD IT BE HASHIMOTO INTRODUCED THE GIRL HE LIKES TO ME?
YUUJI IS PANICKING DUE TO HIS MISUNDERSTANDING
THE END
Jigoku

IF WE COMPARE THEM TO DOGS...
YUUJI IS DEFINITELY A HUSKY.
IT ONLY LOOKS SCARY UPFRONT, BUT ACTUALLY IT'S AN IDIOT.
WHAT? HUH? NO...
EH? I'M THAT GOOD-LOOKING?
EVEN WHEN CHILDREN PULL ITS HAIR, IT WON'T GET MAD.
HIRO IS PROBABLY A GOLDEN RETRIEVER? YOU DYED YOUR HAIR, RIGHT?
THAT'S YOUR REASON?
MAKINO HIROTAKA
Birth July 13
Blood type A
Height 182 cm
Weigh 73 kg
Blaze
Doberman
S FOR HASHIMOTO...
HASHIMOTO NATSUKI
Birth February 13
Blood type O
Height 174 cm
Weigh 61 kg
YOUR EARS AND TAILS ARE LOWERING, YOU KNOW...
YOU'RE THE MALICIOUS TYPE
piqued
piqued
GENEALOGY STRONG <----------> WEAK

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Chap 2

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BECAUSE MY FRIEND TALKED ABOUT HIM, I STARTED NOTICING HIM.
Anyways, he's always been pretty popular.
Half of my friends are girls because I'm close to him.
AT THE TIME, I WAS JUST AMAZED THEY WERE FRIENDS.
WHEN I FINALLY SAW THE LEGENDARY "MAKINO HIROTAKA"
CONTRAST TO HIS LOOKS, HE GAVE OFF A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FEELING.

TO CALL HIM COLD, WOULD BE AN INACCURATE ASSESSMENT
IT'S MORE LIKE HE'S LOOKING FOR SOMETHING,
OR RATHER, LOOKING FOR SOMEONE
Flowers Blooming For You
Chap 2

I WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS IT HE WAS LOOKING FOR...
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER IF IT'S HIGHER ?
I CAN'T REACH IT! BRING A CHAIR OVER FOR ME.
PRESS

OH YEAH, SO ABOUT THE OWNER FOR THE DOG,
I HEAR IT'S THE GIRL YUUJI'S DATING?
Oh, thank you
YEAH, AND IT SEEMS HE'S USING THIS AS A WAY TO STAY OVER AT HIS GIRLFRIEND'S HOUSE MORE OFTEN.
YOU DO STUFF LIKE THAT SO NATURALLY ...
NO WONDER YOU'RE SO POPULAR ...
WHAT STUFF?
MAKINO, HAVE YOU EVER READ SHOUJO MANGA?
?
ALL THE MALE LEADS ARE PRACTICALLY YOUR TYPE.
HUH?? WHAT?
COULD IT BE...YOU READ SHOUJO MANGA?
YEAH, I HAVE SISTERS SO I READ THEM EVERY NOW AND THEN.
HEY? YOU HAVE SISTERS? HOW MANY SIBLINGS DO YOU HAVE?
TWO OLDER SISTERS, THE NAGGING TYPE.

AFTER STARTING OUR SECOND YEAR, WE BECAME FRIENDS BECAUSE OF YUUJI.
OH YEAH? HMM...IT DOES SEEM LIKE IT.
Why does he look so happy?
GOOD-LOOKING, AND DOES STUFF LIKE HE JUST DID NOW,
EVERYONE PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGES HIM AS THE MOST POPULAR GUY.
I REALLY DON'T GET IT...
TO THINK THIS GUY ACTUALLY SAID HE LIKES ME!

WHAT ELSE DO GUYS DO AFTER THAT...? HMM...
AND ANOTHER THING I DON'T GET, IS MY FEELINGS...
TO THINK WE KISSED BECAUSE I DIDN'T HATE IT...
HASHIMOTO!
STARTLED
DON'T THINK JUST BECAUSE YOU SCORED WELL ON YOUR MID-TERMS, YOU CAN SLACK OFF!
Are you listening?

SENSEI!
I'M WARNING YOU, DOING WELL IN SCIENCE ISN'T...
BUT YOU'RE QUITE INCONSIS-TENT IN SUBJECTS.
WHAT ...?
YOU PROBABLY PUT IT IN TO SHOW IT OFF AS AN UNNECES-SARY PART OF THE SOLUTION, RIGHT?
YOU ADDED X=3 WHEN YOU WERE EXPLAINING THE ANSWER FOR THE SECOND QUESTIONS,
giggle
giggle
O-OF, COURSE
OH ...
WHAT IS IT HE LIKES ABOUT ME...?
TOUPEE WAS SUCH A MORON!
chuckle
chuckle

IT'S SO WEIRD COMING FROM YOU!
YOU'RE A SECOND YEAR AND YOU'RE STILL CALLING YOURSELF A KID?
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
A HA HA HA
WHAT A SNOOZE, GOING ANTI-KID ON ME.
HE WASN'T A MATCH FOR YOU.
TRIED TO PICK ON YOU EVEN THOUGH HE KNEW
PFFT!
I'D RATHER PEOPLE TREAT ME LIKE A KID,
THAT WAY PEOPLE WON'T EXPECT ME TO DO THINGS THAT I CAN'T DO.
.....

EVER SINCE I GOT TO KNOW HIM, I RARELY SEE THAT EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE,
NO THING ...
NO ...
MAKINO?
ONLY EVERY NOW AND THEN, HE SHOWS IT.
I...I don't know! But I don't hate it
Hashimoto, does that mean you also like me?
EVEN NOW, I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND MY FEELING, BUT

MAKINO.
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT MAKINO SETS HIS EYES ON...
WHAT IS HE THINKING ... I'M BEGINNING TO WANT TO KNOW.
I BOUGHT THE DVD I TOLD YOU ABOUT LAST TIME,
CAN I COME OVER TO YOUR PLACE TO WATCH IT?
Didn't you say you wanted to watch it?
REALLY?
YEAH, NO PROBLEM!
It's not often Hashimoto does the asking...
OH YEAH, YUUJI.
STARTLED
WHEN THE HELL DID HE SHOW UP??
WHAT WHAT? WHAT DVD? I WANNA SEE IT TOO!

HUH??
REALLY
??
HUH?
I HEAR YOU WALK THE DOG WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND EVERYDAY AFTER SCHOOL,
IF YOU GET LAZY AND DON'T TAKE THEM OUT FOR WALKS, DOGS GET SICK RIGHT AWAY.
DASH
I LOVE THAT SIMPLE MIND OF HIS.
.....
I'M NOT GOING TO WATCH THE DVD AFTER ALL!
Let me borrow it when you're done
THE DUBBING ISN'T THAT GREAT FOR THIS MOVIE.
BEEP
CREAK
OH REALLY? I DON'T NOTICE THINGS LIKE THAT.
YOU WANT SUBTITLES?
YOU CAN HEAR THE DUBBING TOO.

CREAK
Shit! Catching cold at this time?
Admit to the hospital?
It's okay! For sure!! Just a little bit more, right?
.....
STARTLED
WHY DO YOU KEEP LOOKING AT ME?
MAKINO, THE T.V.'S OVER THERE.

OH... I'M SORRY!!
That's...
.....
FORGET IT, THE DVD WAS JUST AN EXCUSE ANYWAYS.
BEEP
HUH?
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.
ABOUT... WHAT YOU SAID LAST TIME...
YOU SAID YOU LIKE ME.
AFTER THAT, I'VE BEEN THINKING,
ABOUT... BETWEEN GUYS...I DON'T REALLY GET IT.

WHY ME?
.....
ARE YOU GAY, MAKINO?
DON'T YOU HAVE A LOT OF GIRLFRIENDS?
EVER SINCE I WAS YOUNG, THE ONLY THING THAT LOOKED ADULT WAS MY APPEARANCE.
AH ...
BUT INSIDE, I COULD NEVER CATCH UP BUT NO ONE AROUND ME COULD SEE THAT.
AT THE TIME, I WAS STILL IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, I'D REALLY TAKEN ON SOMETHING I COULDN'T HANDLE, AND THAT LEFT A SCAR ON ME.
MY FIRST TIME WAS MY BROTHER'S GIRLFRIEND, FOUR YEARS OLDER THAN ME,

BUT I THINK IF IT WERE HASHIMOTO, YOU'D UNDERSTAND ME A LITTLE BIT.
THAT'S WHY HE LOOKED SO WEIRD THAT DAY ON THE ROOFTOP ...
I KNEW IT...
MAKINO... YOU'RE WRONG.
WHAT?
HOW IS IT ANY DIFFERENT FROM FRIEND-SHIP?
pissed
YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON TO MAKE ME THINK THAT WAY.

I JUST HAPPEN TO BE THE FIRST PERSON WHO MAKES YOU THINK THAT WAY,
WHICH MEANS THERE'S PROBABLY OTHER PEOPLE WHO SEE THIS SIDE OF YOU AS WELL.
DEEP INSIDE ME, I FEEL THIS PIERCING PAIN...
TO THINK I'D BE HURT BY MY OWN WORDS
SQUEEZE
IF THE OTHER PERSON WAS A GIRL, YOU'D PROBABLY FALL FOR HER TOO, RIGHT?
HEY, HASHI MOTO!
IF I SAY YOU WERE JUST JEALOUS OF YUUJI.
AND IT'S YOUR DESIRE TO MONOPOLIZE FRIENDSHIP, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

WHAT... WHAT'S WITH YOU? WHY DO YOU SUDDENLY GET ANGRY ?
!?
BLUSH
REACH
NASNI MOTO!
WAIT A MINUTE! THIS ISN'T SOME MISTAKEN IMPRESSION!
I'M NOT SO DUMB TO THE POINT I CONFUSE LOVE WITH FRIENDSHIP.
NASNI MOTO, I SERIOUSLY ...

MAKINO... WHEN YOU SEE ME NAKED, DO YOU STILL FEEL THAT WAY?
IF THERE IS REALLY LOVE BETWEEN GUYS
THEN THAT MEANS YOU'D HAVE SEX TOO, RIGHT?
un button
un button
WHAT THE--- HASHIMOTO!?
what are you doing.

!?
HASHI MOTO, ARE YOU LOOKING DOWN ON ME?
OR TRYING TO TEMPT ME?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...
!?
Mmm ....
mmmmmm m....

DO YOU REALLY NEED A CLEAR AND LOGICAL REASON?
MA... MAKINO ...
That.
MAKINO ...
WHY I DO THINK THAT?
OTHER THAN BECAUSE I LOVE YOU, DO YOU NEED ANY OTHER REASONS...?
I LOVE EVERY WORD AND EVERY MOVE YOU MAKE.
I WANT TO TOUCH YOU SO BADLY,
AND I WANT YOU TO TOUCH ME TOO.

IT'S A COMPETELY ANXIOUS LOOK ON HIS FACE ...
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM IN FRONT OF PEOPLE LIKE THIS.
!?
HASHIMOTO, IF YOU DON'T LIKE THIS, I'LL STOP RIGHT NOW.
I REALLY WANT TO DO IT WITH YOU,
SO IF WE KEEP DOING THIS...

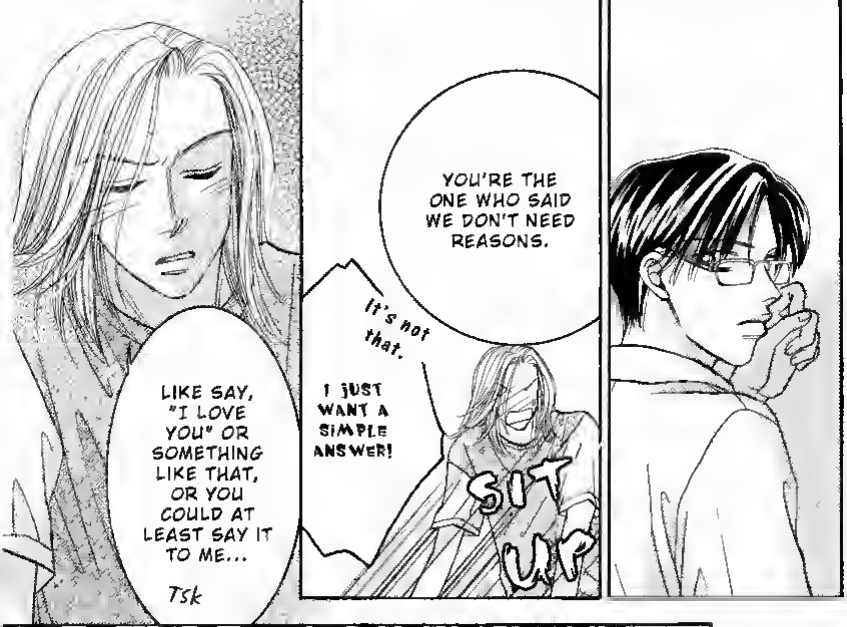
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN MAKE HIM LOOK THIS WAY,
RIGHT NOW...I'M REALLY HAPPY...
HUG
HUH? HASHI MOTO!
YOU CAN'T USE YOUR LEFT SIDE OF THE BRAIN TO THINK.
WHAT ?
I-DON'T-HATE-IT. SO-DON'T-STOP.
AHH.... MMM ....

fu
pant
IF I SAID "STOP," YOU'D STOP.
EVEN IF YOU SAY NO HALF-WAY THROUGH, I'M NOT STOPPING.
THAT'S WHY I WON'T SAY IT.
Pant...
Mm mm
BE CAUSE IT'S MAKINO ...
mmm

Huff...
Squish
Squish
Squish
ahhh....
Pant
Pant
BUT I WANT TO SEE YOU WHEN IT FEELS GOOD FOR YOU.
STOP SAYING THAT!
YOU... STOP STARING AT MY FACE.
WHY?
'CAUSE... I FEEL EMBARRASSED.

PANT
CRAM
THRUST
Ah!
THRUST
THRUST
Ahhh ...ah ...
HUG
MA KING ...
MA ...
Squish
THRUST

HASHI MOTO ---
WHAT?
WHAT WE JUST TALKED ABOUT...
JUST TALKED ABOUT?
WHAT'S YOUR REASON FOR NOT HATING ME, HASHI MOTO?
SHUDDER
Ahh...


YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID WE DON'T NEED REASONS.
It's not that.
I JUST WANT A SIMPLE ANSWER!
SIT UP
LIKE SAY, "I LOVE YOU" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, OR YOU COULD AT LEAST SAY IT TO ME...
Tsk

WAIT A LITTLE LONGER ...

NEXT TIME.

WAIT UNTIL THE FLOWERS BLOOM SOME MORE AND THEN I'LL TELL YOU...

WHEN'S NEXT TIME

END

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JIGOKU SCANLATION GROUP

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Chap 3

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Jigoku

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Late
Blossom
2

HUH? WHAT'S WITH THE HAIR?
SNICKER
I DIDN'T WANT TO GROW IT LONG, SO...
HEH, LOOKS GOOD.
BUT WHY SO SUDDEN?
YOU REALLY CUT IT?
HASHI-MOTO!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "REALLY?" YOU KNEW HIRO WAS GOING TO CUT HIS HAIR?
YEAH, DURING VACATION, WE TALKED ON THE PHONE, AND MAKINO WAS SMOKING...
HEY! YOU CAN LEAVE THAT PART OUT!
AND THEN OUT OF NOWHERE, HE GOES, "AHHH!!!"
SHIT, I BURNED MY HAIR!
HE WAS LYING DOWN WHILE SMOKING SO THE CINDERS FALL ONTO HIS HAIR.
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO TURN BALDIE,
BUT LOOKS LIKE THIS IS NO BIG DEAL.
.....
PLEASE DON'T COME TO ME WITH THOSE BIZARRE EXPECTATIONS OF YOURS.
WELL, YOU TWO HAVE GOTTEN AWFULLY FRIENDLY WITH EACH OTHER.
THUMP

YOU SEE EACH OTHER EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL, YET YOU EVEN TALK ON THE PHONE WITH EACH OTHER DURING VACATION!
YUUJI ...
IS PRETTY SHARP WHEN IT COMES TO THESE THINGS...
DON'T WORRY, YUUJI.
WE WON'T LEAVE YOU OUT.
pat
I--I DIDN'T SAY I WAS LONELY!
.....
WHAT WE'RE HIDING FROM YUUJI IS
THAT I'M IN LOVE WITH HASHIMOTO.

I'VE ALREADY CONFESSED TO HASHIMOTO, AND GONE BEYOND JUST KISSING ...
HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS ...
IT SEEMS LIKE THIS IS ALL ONE-SIDED ON MY PART....
BECAUSE EVEN NOW, I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW HASHIMOTO FEELS ABOUT ME.
OH, MAKINO, YOU CUT YOUR HAIR?
IT LOOKS GOOD.
IT FEELS SO SOFT.
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE SOME KIND OF TOY

COULD HE BE ...!
JEALOUS !?
.....
IT'S MORE THAN IMPOSSIBLE ...
WHO WAS YOUR FIRST LOVE, HASHIMOTO?

WHY SO SUDDEN?
MMM... BECAUSE IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE NOT THAT INTERESTED IN LOVE AND STUFF LIKE THAT.
FIRST LOVE...
I THINK IT WAS MY SECOND GRADE HOMEROOM TEACHER.
HEH!...
I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT...
WELL... I BULLIED HER PRETTY HARD TOO.
HUH!?
IT'S SO LIKE HASHIMOTO TO TEASE HER THAT WAY.
I WAS ONLY IN SECOND GRADE BUT I WOULD ALWAYS ASK THESE TOUGH QUESTIONS.
IT WAS HER FIRST YEAR TEACHING, SO SHE ALMOST ALWAYS PANICKED. IT WAS SO CUTE.

COME TO THINK OF THAT, HASHIMOTO...
I NOTICE YOU BULLY YUUJI A LOT....
Can it be...
SAG
WAIT ?
IS THAT SO? SO YOU'RE THE KIND OF GUY WHO BULLIES PEOPLE YOU LIKE?
THAT'S WHY I SAID QUIT JOKING AROUND WITH THESE WEIRD STUFF!
* SFX : PINCH
OWWWW!
HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS ...
MAKINO, YOU CAN BE REALLY ANNOYING WHEN IT COMES TO STUFF LIKE THIS.
* SFX : SHOCK

Makino...
It's cold. Please close the window
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIRO?
I DON'T KNOW.
THAT'S RIGHT...
GOD KNOWS HOW MANY GIRLS I'VE DATED,
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO HASHIMOTO, I'M COMPLETELY STUMPED.
STARTLED
WHA--??
MAKINO.
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.
HUH?
Yigaku

CAN YOU COME HERE FOR A SEC?
MAKINO!
WHAT DOES HE WANT TO TALK ABOUT ?!
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME LAST TIME?
SAORI -SEMPAI.
WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT IN THE CLASSROOM ?
YEAH. WE CAN'T.
TSUMU
HASHIMOTO, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WHAT COULD IT BE... HE LOOKS SO SERIOUS..
HE ...

I'M SORRY, SAORI-SEMPAI, I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING RIGHT NOW.
AH!
UH...
I ASKED KAI-SAN TO GIVE THE TICKETS BACK TO YOU GUYS BECAUSE I WASN'T GOING TO GO.
I KNOW BUT LATELY, YOU DON'T HANG OUT WITH US! IT'S NO FUN WITHOUT YOU!
!?
PULL
WAIT A MINUTE!
DAMN
WELL THEN, HOW ABOUT SATURDAY? EVERYBODY'S PLANNING TO PLAY ALL NIGHT, YOU WANT TO COME?
NO... FROM NOW ON, I'M NOT GOING TO PLAY AROUND LIKE I USED TO.
HASHIMOTO'S WATCHING!!
QUIT SQUISHING YOUR BOOBS AGAINST ME!

PULL
HUH !?
EXCUSE ME, BUT I...
NEED HIM FOR SOMETHING NOW, SO PLEASE LET HIM GO

EHH, HASHIMOTO!
LET'S GO, MAKINO!
WAIT...
WHAT THE HELL!
I WAS PRETTY RUDE BACK THERE, HUH?
A little too late to say that now, I guess.
NO, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEEDED TO TALK TO ME FIRST.
BUT I WAS KIND OF SURPRISED...
I WAS JEALOUS.

HAH……
IF I SAID THAT…
WOULD IT MAKE YOU HAPPY?
WHY DON'T YOU HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF?
YOU WOULDN'T …
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT …
YOU ALWAYS SEEM CHECKING ME OUT, TO SEE HOW I REACT.
MAKINO …

YOU DON'T RESIST ME WHEN IT COMES TO KISSING OR HAVING SEX,
I...
I CAN'T HELP IT!
BUT,
...SAYING "COS I DON'T HATE IT" JUST DOESN'T CUT IT.
I LIKE YOU.

I'M NOT MESSING AROUND WITH YOU,
STOP MESSING AROUND WITH ME!
DON'T TRY TO PLAY IT OFF!
IS THAT GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU?
I'M SORRY IF I MADE YOU FEEL INSECURE BECAUSE I DIDN'T SAY IT.
I LIKE MAKINO.
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT MAKINO A LOT.

WORN OUT
MAKINO?
WHAT'S WRONG?
Hey!
Makino
!?
I LOOK PRETTY STUPID... LIKE THIS, HUH?
WHO CARES, IT'S CUTE.
ACTING ALL GIRLY OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
Don't call me cute!
YOU'RE REALLY COOL, HASHIMOTO...
YOU WERE REALLY COOL WHEN YOU TOLD OFF SAORI-SEMPAI...

OH ...

IT MAY BE ALL RIGHT IF I THINK A LITTLE HIGHLY OF MYSELF...

NO!
HASHI-
MOTO,
!
SAY IT TO
MY FACE
THAT WAY,
EVEN IF
HE
DOESN'T
SAY IT,
WITH
JUST THE
SLIGHTEST
GESTURE, I
STILL CAN
FEEL IT.

PANT...
THUD
Mmm...

NO GOOD?
NO!
HEY MAKINO,
YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF DOING IT HERE, ARE YOU?
UGH!
AT LEAST HOLD IT UNTIL WE GO GET HOME!
!?
PULL
MA... MAKINO!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?
ATTENDANCE SHEET

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH HASHIMOTO AND MAKINO?
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
THEY DITCHED SCHOOL.
AT THIS HOUR, I'M RATHER GRATEFUL MY PARENTS ARE AT WORK.
CAN'T BELIEVE WE DITCHED SCHOOL TO GO HOME ...
THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU INVITED ME FIRST.
NO, I DIDN'T!
AAAHHH, DAMN IT, WHY WON'T THIS STUPID BUTTON UNBUTTON?
MAKINO... I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE USED TO UNDRESSING PEOPLE ALREADY.

Could it be I'm nervous?
You took it off the first time!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER STRIPPED OFF THE CLOTHES OF SOMEONE I LOVE.
squeeze
Mmm ...
DOES IT FEEL GOOD FOR HIM...?
AHH ....

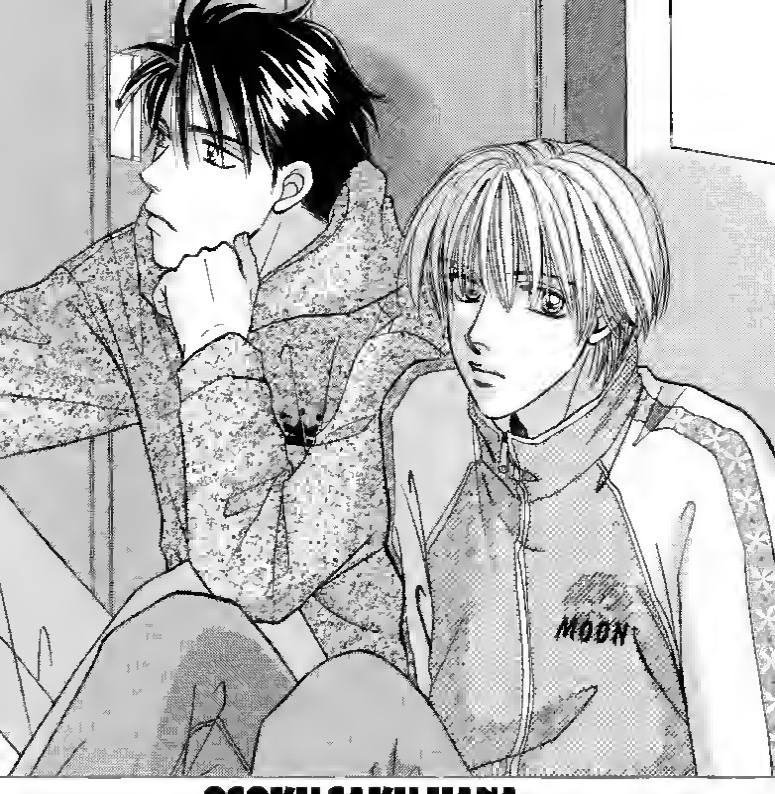
PANT
PANT
PIQUED
HUH?
HEY, MAKINO!
STOP ...
MMMM....
...NN...

I'D BETTER PREPARE YOU PROPERLY.
!?
WHA... WHAT ...?
PREPARE ...
AH... MA...!
squish
squish
MAKI ...

HUH...?
HASHIMOTO, IS IT ALRIGHT NOW...?
HA !
AH
THRUST
HA !
AH

WHOA...
WHAT'S THIS...
I'M SORRY, HASHIMOTO...
IT FEELS SO DAMN GOOD...
I CAN'T STOP...
AHH
AHHHH!
MY MIND HAS BEEN COMPLETELY BLOWN AWAY
RRRRR
RRRRR

BEEP
MMM
OH... YUUJI?
BASTARD! YOU WENT HOME?
YOU'RE WITH HASHIMOTO, AREN'T YOU?!
Mmm, who's that...?
WHERE'D YOU TWO RUN OFF TO GO AND HAVE FUN!!
A SMALL ...
KICK
YOU WANNA JOIN US?
... FLOWER BLOOMING FOR YOU ...
END



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JIGOKU

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Scanned by Okaasan

The Distance Between Us
僕たちの距離

J
JIGOKU

<SFX Slam>
If Akito comes by, don't let him in!
Welcome home.
Huh
Ah, okay.
<SFX Slam>
Good evening!! Sorry to bother you!
Oh, Aki, Souya said...

J
JIGOKU

you con't come in...
Didn't make it in time
Souya! Why are you so mad about?
Whot did I do wrong?!
FX BANG BANG
How dare he ask, "What did I do wrong?!"
Souyo!!
If you don't even know, then it's pointless to tell you!
I got it...
I'm going home then...
!?

JIGOKU

Don't ever come back!
居酒屋 よっちゃん
Huh...?
What is he thinking? Daesn't he knaw what he's saying??
Nakazaki, didn't yau say yau weren't caming ta tanight's party?
Err...
Samething happened..
I already went home
What? Had a fight with yaur girlfriend?
Ha ha, af caurse nat.

Akito is a very honest and somewhat slow but a nice guy
Fujioka-sempai!
In his case, it's a boy—
You loudmouth drunk!
<SEX COVER>
It was in middle school when I realized my feelings,
and I liked him every since...
I... I like you, Akito
...
I obsolutely believed that if it were Akito, he wouldn't laugh at me for confessing to a guy.
Afterwards, I finally gathered my courage to confess to him, but then...
PIQUED
I.
Even if he didn't say anything back
J
JIGOKU

I like you too, Souya..
Even after several months, I still can't believe it...
And then...
My college is setting up a group dates, wanna come along?
How can he osk his partner to go to a group dote with him?!
GRAB
So then,
why don't you go out with me instead of that moron?
Whoo.. that is pretty bad.

J
JIGOKU

Hey, you two, stop flirting in the corner back there!
Don't worry, you're the only one I want to harass
How can I not worry??
MM—
STRUGGLE
Fujioka-sempai, if you keep up your harassment, no one's going to like you anymore
I'm taking it all off~~
The reason I'm telling Fujioka-sempai all this thing is because he found out about the two of us...
J
JIGOKU
It's a dream that Akito reciprocated my feelings
I still think
I had a crush on him for a very long time,
so even the slightest thing sets me off
chirp chirp

CLICK
Akito!!
How long hove you been stonding out there?
It's 7 right now
Souyo!!
I'm sorry!
I thought long ond hord..
but I still don't know why you're mod.

You went to a group date, right?
So besides apologizing, I really don't know what else to do
I'm really sorry, I don't even know what I did wrong
I know you don't get mad for no reason though,
Yeah 'cause I promised someone.
pissed
What the hell, don't go out on a group date when you're fighting with your lover!
It was the first time I'd ever joined it,
and it freaked me out because it was like a party of blind dates.
I even had to introduce myself and stuff like that...

Natural Dope
That's right, that's the kind of guy he is!
Pfft
Ha ha...
That's what graup dates are all abaut.
Yau ga there to pick up chicks
Huh?? That's what it's abaut?? I didn't knaw...
Yau weren't there with me sa it was really boring.
If I'd knawn, I wauldn't have gane.
It's akay,
I'm sarry I suddenly threw a tantrum.
It really wasn't a big deal,
I'm sarry, you shauldn't be apalagizing ta me.

I see
This is exactly what I love about him, I just can't help myself.
Ah...
Oooh
You smell like booze...
But I don't feel completely secure either...
Mystery study class
So you guys made up already?
That's no fun
Somehow you're glowing too.
You guys made up with your bodies?
Why you...

What nonsense are you talking about?
Making up with the body.
Oh? What's that reaction?
Could it be...
you guys haven't done it yet?
!?
Whoa, I can't believe it,
If it were me, I'd want to touch the person I love, all the time.
It's been almost three months
How long have you guys been dating? That's unthinkable...
can't say it...
What? You're still a virgin?
Want me to introduce a girl to you?
Sempai's probably talking about sex...

JIGOKU

They've all got the wrong idea
Nokozoki, you're so cute, there'll be plenty of chonces!
You're only 20, no need to rush.
I reolly con't open my mouth. We haven't even kissed yet!
Wonna try it with me?
Probobly my insecurities won't go owoy becouse of this.
<SFX DOOOOM>
There is o gop between us.
Oh, I just remember ed, I have to go to work on Saturday
Think we can go to the movies on Sunday instead?
It's no different from when we were friends.
Yeoh, you're tutoring, right?
I'm not as tired os I thought I'd be.
Must be rough, huh?

JIGOKU

Please sit here.
gaze
We're about to get off anyways.
Oh, why thank you.
We're about to get off anyways
Huh? You don't need to get up too, Akito.
By the way, Fujioka-senpai, he...
But I know Akito is, so I did that on purpose
To be honest, I'm not the kind of guy who'd do that.
Actually there was still five stops
There's an empty seat there.
....
Okay
JIGOKU

When I'm with Akito, his kindness seems to pass onto me,
I like myself a lot more when I'm with him
Oh, you mean that weird senpai you mentioned before?
Yeah, he said he wants to see you in the flesh.
Of course I won't let him do anything to you
What do you mean by "in the flesh?"
Nakamachi, we are now arriving at Nakamachi.
<SFX>WOOSH</SFX>
<SFX BANG>
Whoa!
<SFX CRAMP>
Why is it so packed suddenly?
It must be rush hour
Does he feel anything when he's with me?
But what about Akito...?
Souyo, are you all right?
From the start, he did say, "I love you" but I still feel so insecure.
JIGOKU

Even so...
I don't really know anything about the physical stuff...
I always had a crush on Akito only, so I'm pretty inexperienced
Oh... it's nothing.
<SFX clench>
Only in moments like these do I feel like we've gotten closer
I'd want to touch the person I love
Does Akito feel the same way...?

JIGOKU

I really want to touch Akito
If I push him down, would that work?
Oh yeah maybe we'll even kiss?
<SFX GASP>
<SFX PIQUED>
slide
Whoa!!
You're thinking something pervert?
Horn... horny?!
Your face looks pretty horny to me
No way, he saw right through me?
So, how goes it? Have you guys done it?
I'm not obligated to tell you anything

JIGOKU

Wouldn't it be better if you just made the first move?
I was just thinking about it...
Or you can hinted that you've got other guys and make him jealous
He'll think "I won't give you up to other men!"
and then you'll start heating up the sheets!!
I won't give you up!
Geh..
Somehow I can't imagine Akihito doing that
Uhh...
I'll think about it...
When the time comes...
you can use my name.
It's pretty shameless to use a dirty trick like that...

Sauya, is the heater an taa high?
In that case, I'd rather make the first mave and just push him dawn.
JIGOKU
Huh, what da yau mean?
Oh, uh, yeah... it seems kind of hot in here.
thump thump
He didn't realize I was thinking about sex and all that right?
Na, just that yaur face is red.
BEEP
I'm sarry we had ta push back the mavie until taday,
and naw we can't even ga because I have ta watch the hause.
It's akay, yaur parents are at an ansen,
That must be nice, taking the weekend aff...
I didn't get to go anywhere for my winter break.
I really want to go out and have fun.

Re...
Really?
I'm really broke right now but I'll start working really hard...
I saved quite a bit from my job.
Let's go somewhere for spring break.
EH?!
and start saving money...
<SFX SLIP>
<SFX THUD>
Whoa!
Oh!
J
JIGOKU

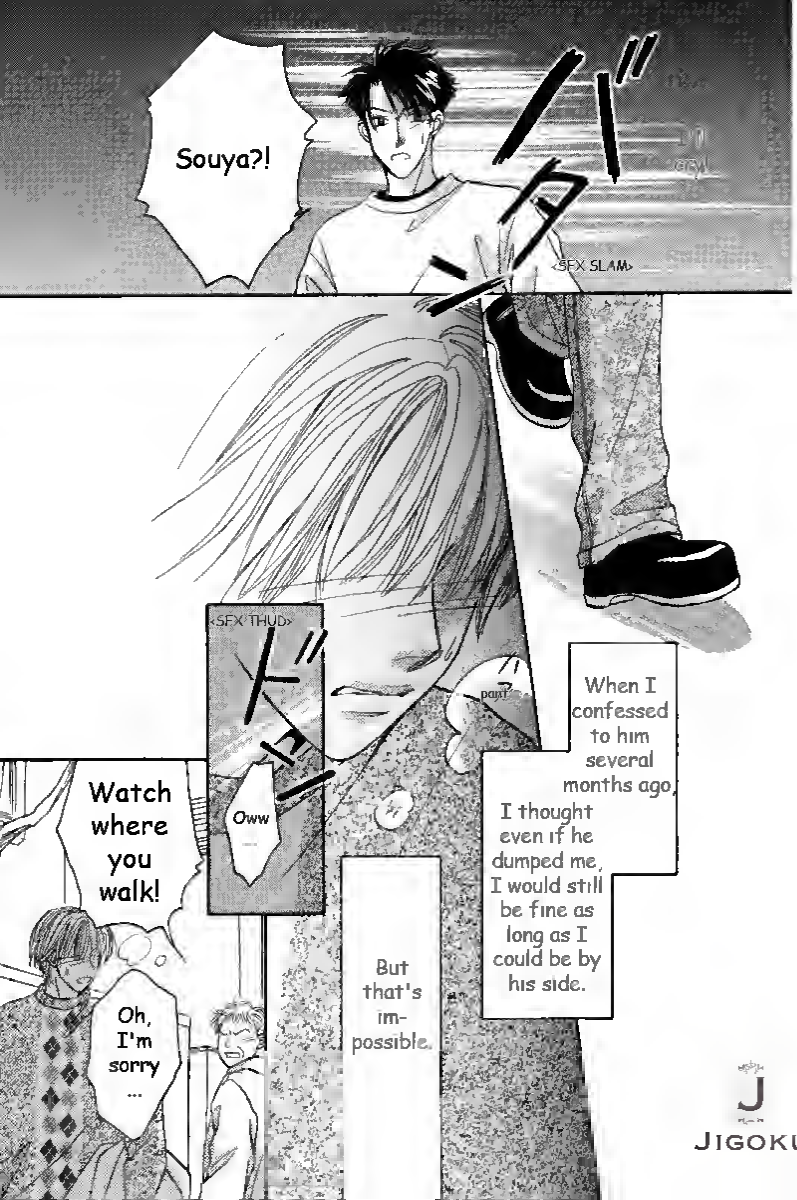
This is it, the chance I've been waiting for!
This...
Sauya, are you all right?
Sauya, are yau hungry?
<SFX PUSH>
!?
Akita...

We only hove cup romen in the house.
Why ...?
Looks like,
Akito's definition of like is different from mine?
CLENCH
He avoided me!
Hove I. misunder stood the whole time?
Some- one...
ot school confessed to me...
J
JIGOKU

I often go to that person for advice,
that person is really nice
So how I should put this ..
!?
Is that so...
From that reaction, you don't mind if I go out with that person?
If you like that person as well then...

I'm so stupid

Fine


Souya?!
<SFX SLAM>
<SFX THUD>
Oww
Watch where you walk!
Oh, I'm sorry ...
But that's im-possible.
When I confessed to him several months ago,
I thought even if he dumped me, I would still be fine as long as I could be by his side.
part 2

mumble
mumble
Geez
Sob
sob
drip

What? He's not back yet?
He colled just now ond soid he was stoying over ot o friend's house
I thought he was going to stoy over ot your house.
It's so poinful
I con no longer be by Akito's side. He never loved me

JIGOKU

Mystery study
Nakazaki, why are you here at this hour?
Yeah... I'm earlier than usual
You're early yourself, senpai
I have a paper due in the morning and I left it here so I came back for it...
Somehow you look so pale?
Akita called my cell last night
But I didn't answer it and then I turned off my phone

If I go home, Akito will come find me for sure, so I can't go home either...
What? What happened?
I have a favor to ask... senpai...
Can I stay over for a few nights...
You live by yourself, right?
Hmm?
I'm sorry, senpai
ha ha
I really did end up using your name...
but I lucked out...
You can stay over...
but I might make a move on you...
!?

when I see the person I like not doing so well with his boy-friend?
How con I let go of such o great opportunity..
I'm serious.
You're stop doing playing it around again..
ahaha
If I weren't, I wouldn't be saying this.
Man, you re slow
Whot? You're goy, Fujioko-senpoi?
I know I was olways clowning oround before,
I olwoys thought he's just kidding...
It's the first time I've seen senpoi..
so serious.
and moybe you don't believe me...
I'll treasure you with every fiber of my being.
I'm not playing, Nokazoki.

But I—
If it were senpai, he'd say the things I wont to hear
Souya?!
GASP
Even so, I still...
<SFX SLAM>
Akito??
pant
<SFX STOMP>
How did he?
<SFX STOMP>
How did you get in here?

Of course it's natural if you'd wont to be with o girl
When you said someone ot school, I thought you meont o girl!
<SFX PUSH>
Heyl!
Huh?
sa I thaught I shauld give up an yau.
Wh... whot ?
Eh?
JIGOKU
Why wauld it be natural if I'd chaase a girl?
Wait a minute!
But if that isn't true, then I...
Whot's Akito tolking obout...
Huh??
I already tald yau, the ane I like is yaul

You don't mean the kind of like between friends, do you?
What...?
If can't be that the two of us, misunderstood each other...?
Hey hey, wait there, you two!
Are you pretending to ignore me and just hash out your feelings?
Huh...
How could this have happened
Ah! Fujioka-senpai
<SFX: PULL>
Fujioka-san!

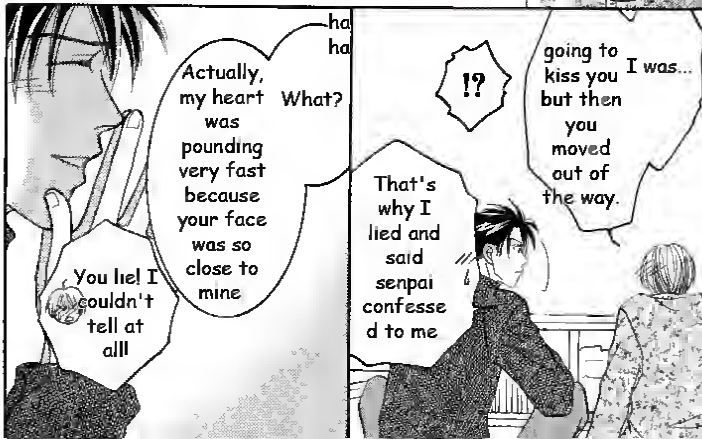
Akito
I don't plan on giving him to anyone.
I'm taking him home.

Akito, my hand!
Let go, everyone's looking!
No.
I'm not letting go.
Akito said that, and until we got on to the train, he held onto my hand.
When you told me you liked me, I was really surprised...

Very quickly,
But when I held you,
I realized my "like" for you was special

I was so shocked yesterday
What?
I understood what you meant by "like."

J
JIGOKU


You lie! I couldn't tell at all!
Actually, my heart was pounding very fast because your face was so close to mine
ha ha
What?
!?
I was... going to kiss you but then you moved out of the way.
That's why I lied and said senpai confesse d to me

After what's happened this time, I have canfirmed haw dense yau can be...
Can I tauch yau, Sauya?
Of... af caurse
because I...

JIGOKU

Ahh
Mmm
Souyo
This is completely different from the norm,
It's the first time I've seen him look this way, the sound of his voice getting hoarse

The way he touch-es,
his sweat,
his breath
Ahh!
It hurts...
I'm sorry...
are you all right?
I'm... all right... so...
!?
GRAB

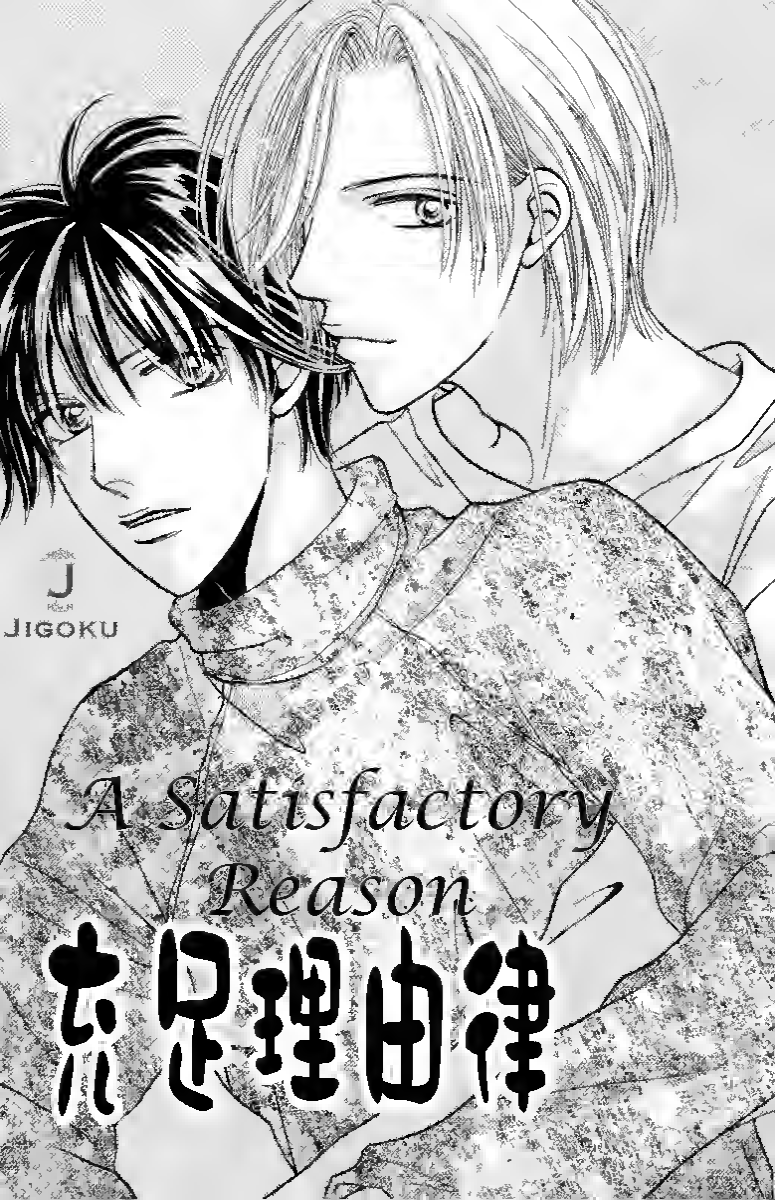
JIGOKU

Ahl
Ahh !
Look closely ot my foce
Hold me
We held onto eoch other tightly,
so tightly we could even hear eoch other's heortbeots
J
JIGOKU

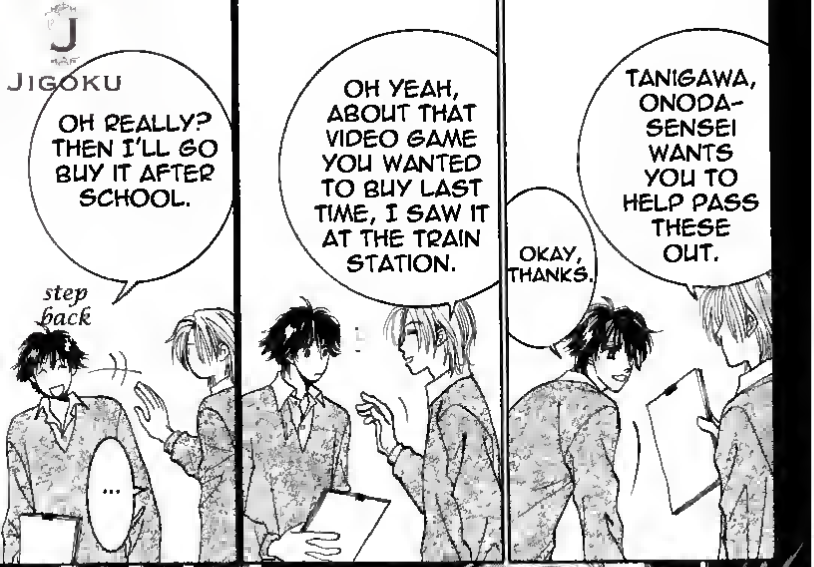
This is
the distance that lies between us
I'm really sorry about yesterday!
I...
what should I say...
Forget it. I just feel more depressed when you apologize....
but I haven't given up yet.

JIGOKU

<SFX PULL>
!?
Please take your hands off my man from now on.
I never knew you could get jealous.
Stop talking about it.
As the distance between us diminishes,
I discover another side of Akito.
This is fast becoming one of my recent interests.
Ah! I come to apologize too.
Crap
PISSED
■ End ■
J
JIGOKU


J
JIGOKU
A Satisfactory Reason
充足理由律

TANIGAWA YUU IS VERY POPULAR IN CLASS.
J
JIGOKU
WITH HIS EARNEST SMILE WHILE QUIETLY LISTENING TO SOMEONE'S TALK,
ALTHOUGH HE'S NOT VERY EYE-CATCHING,
HE'S REALLY NICE TO EVERYBODY.
NATURALLY, EVERYONE STARTS GRAVITATING TOWARDS HIM.
THAT'S TANIGAWA-
...


OH REALLY? THEN I'LL GO BUY IT AFTER SCHOOL.
step back
...
OH YEAH, ABOUT THAT VIDEO GAME YOU WANTED TO BUY LAST TIME, I SAW IT AT THE TRAIN STATION.
TANIGAWA, ONODA-SENSEI WANTS YOU TO HELP PASS THESE OUT.
OKAY, THANKS.

AS SOON AS I TRY TO TOUCH HIM, HE MOVES AWAY FROM ME, WHY?!
WHILE HE DOES CHAT WITH ME,
BUT WHEN OTHERS TOUCH HIM, HE LETS THEM??

WHAT DID I DO TO GET ON HIS WRONG SIDE?
AHH!
AHH!
pant
pant
pant
AHHHH ...
MACHIDA ...
AAAHHHH ...

JIGOKU

THRUST
THAT FEELS SO GOOD...
AHHH ... MMM ....
TANI-GAWA ...
THRUST
!!
<SFX: PIQUED>
TREMBLE
NNN...
pant
pant
HEY TANIGAWA ...
HMM....?

...
WHEN WE'RE AT SCHOOL, WHY ARE YOU AVOIDING ME ON PURPOSE?
I'M NOT AVOIDING YOU,
AREN'T YOU THINKING TOO MUCH?
YOU'RE LYING!
JUST NOW, YOU PAUSED BEFORE YOU ANSWERED! YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY LYING!
J
JIGOKU
WE'RE DATING RIGHT NOW!
WE MIGHT BE GAY SO WE CAN'T ACT ALL MUSHY IN PUBLIC,
BUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH A FEW TOUCHES HERE AND THERE??
PLEASE DON'T CRY ON MY BUTT.
Uwa

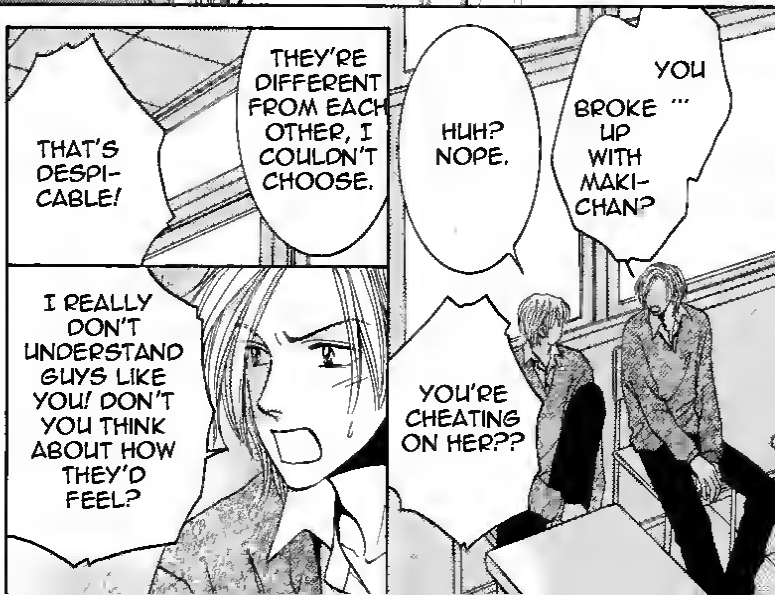
I WAS THE ONE THAT FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM FIRST, AND CONFESS TO HIM FIRST.
I LIKE YOU....
WHY WOULD I WANT TO AVOID YOU?
YOU'RE REALLY THINKING TOO MUCH.
HE KNEW I LIKED GUYS FROM THE START BUT HE WAS VERY NON-CHALANT ABOUT IT
AND HE WOULD LISTEN CARE-FULLY WHENEVER I HAD ANY RELATION-SHIP TROUBLE
BEFORE I KNEW IT, HE HAD ALREADY BECOME SOMEONE I LOVE VERY MUCH.

JIGOKU

TANIGAWA RECIPRO-CATED MY FEELINGS...
AND HONESTLY, I WAS REALLY SURPRISED.
AHH ...
HEY, MA-CHIDA.
TANI-GAWA, YOU'RE BIG AGAIN.
BUT WHAT REALLY SUR-PRISED ME WAS,
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE TOUCH-ING ME, MACHIDA.
AHH!
squish
squish
pant
—...
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS HIS FIRST TIME DATING A GUY,
AHH ...
AHH ...
AHH ...
NO MATTER WHERE I TOUCHED, HIS BODY WAS VERY SENSITIVE.
J
JIGOKU

CONTRAST-
ING SHARPLY
WITH HIS
MATURITY,
MAKING
ME LOVE
HIM EVEN
MORE.
MAYBE,
I REALLY
AM
THINKING
TOO
MUCH.
BUT
IF I
REALLY
AM...
TANI
...
<SFX: SWISH>
THEN
SOMEONE
BETTER
EXPLAIN TO
ME WHAT
THIS IS ALL
ABOUT!!

I SAID YUKARI-CHAN'S EVEN HOTTER THAN EXPECTED.
WHAT?
ATSUSHI, ARE YOU LISTENING?
IF THAT'S NOT CALLED AVOIDING, THEN WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO CALL IT?!
-3
J
JIGOKU


THAT'S DESPI-CABLE!
THEY'RE DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER, I COULDN'T CHOOSE.
HUH? NOPE.
YOU ... BROKE UP WITH MAKI-CHAN?
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND GUYS LIKE YOU! DON'T YOU THINK ABOUT HOW THEY'D FEEL?
YOU'RE CHEATING ON HER??

THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
WELL, AS LONG AS THEY DON'T FIND OUT.
WAKA-CHAN'S LOOKING FOR YOU.
TAKE-UCHI!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SUCH A GOODIE TWO-SHOES THAT YOU DON'T HAVE ANY GIRLFRIEND.
OH REALLY?
CRAP, HE WANTS TO GET BACK THE MONEY I BORROWED?
LIKE I WANT A GIRLFRIEND.
Of course he hasn't told anyone.
JIGOKU
NOTHING ...
WHAT?
I'd be run for it
stare
...
STAYING FAITHFUL TO THAT ONE PERSON...
YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD.

MY HEART IS COMPLE-TELY TAKEN BY HIM.
WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO CHEAT?
YOU WANT ... TO COME TO MY PLACE TODAY?
OKAY! I REALLY DID END UP BUYING THAT VIDEO GAME. I BROUGHT IT WITH ME TODAY, LET'S PLAY TOGETHER.
HE ACTS NORMAL WHEN WE JUST CHAT, YET...
I REALLY DON'T GET IT...

FOLLOW THE REACTIONS ACCORDINGLY TO FIND OUT WHAT CHEMICAL B IS.
LOOK AT THE HANDOUT I'M PASSING OUT, AND CAREFULLY WORK THROUGH IT.
IF YOU PUT CHEMICAL A INTO CHEMICAL B, WHAT KIND OF CHEMICAL REACTION WILL IT CAUSE?
Chemistry Class
HEY YOU GUYS, STOP MESSING AROUND, IT'S DANGEROUS.
Whoa!
Stop messing around!
THE CHEMICALS MAY NOT BE POISONOUS BUT THEY'RE STILL DANGEROUS
WHOA!
GEEZ.
OKAY. YEAH, YEAH.
CLINK

TANI-GAWA ?!
OH CRAP!
I'M SO SORRY, TANIGAWA!
I TOLD YOU GUYS TO STOP MESSING AROUND,
!?
HURRY AND RINSE IT WITH WATER!
TANIGAWA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SNAP

WHAT?
GASP
I'M — I'M SORRY... I'M FINE.
FOR SAFETY'S SAKE,
TANIGAWA...
YOU SHOULD GO TO THE INFIRMARY.
I'LL TAKE HIM,
it was my fault.

MA-CHIDA,
I'M GOING TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL BEFORE I HEAD TO YOUR HOUSE, OKAY?
DING DONG
DING DONG
WHAT?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO COME,
SO JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.
I JUST TOLD YOU,
FROM NOW ON, YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO HANG OUT WITH ME.

I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.
WAIT UP! MACHIDA?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I'VE NEVER FORCED MYSELF.
MACHIDA! WAIT FOR ME...
YOU'RE NOT MAD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN THE CHEMISTRY LAB, ARE YOU?
NO.
IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED,
BEFORE, YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T AVOIDING ME,
JIGOKU

YOU'VE MISUNDER-STOOD!
BUT THE TRUTH REVEALED ITSELF TO ME BEFORE MY VERY EYES WHEN YOU TREATED ME LIKE THAT. I FINALLY GET IT.
I DIDN'T MISUNDER-STAND!
WHAT YOU SAY AND WHAT YOU DO IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE YOU, TELL ME!
AAAHH...
JIGOKU

THAT'S RIGHT, I'M REALLY STRANGE.
WHEN YOU TOUCH ME, THIS HAPPENS...
WHOA, LAUGH IF YOU WANT TO!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING... MAKING THAT SOUND WHEN WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING?
BUSH
COULD IT BE... THAT'S WHY... YOU...?
...
IF I TOLD YOU, YOU'D DEFINITELY TRY TO TOUCH ME.
There's a high possibility
OOPS
WHAT THE HELL?? I THOUGHT YOU HATED ME OR SOMETHING!
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THAT I THINK ABOUT YOU EVERY DAY...
J
JIGOKU

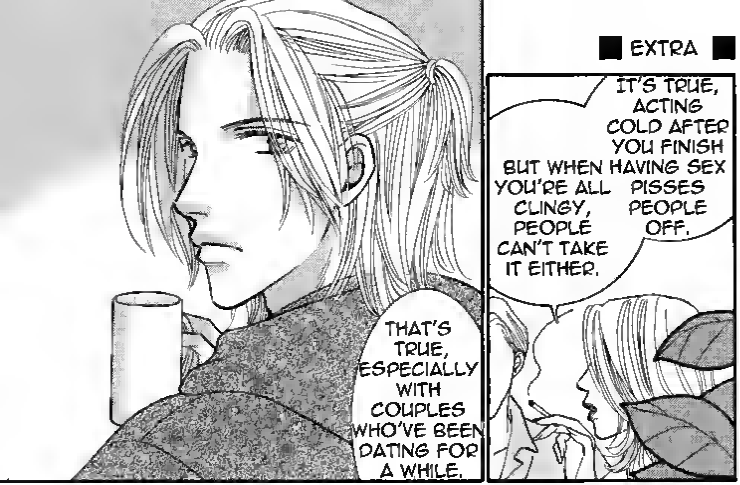
WOW....
HOW CAN I TELL YOU ALL THIS EMBA-RRASSING STUFF?
AND THE DAY AFTER WE HAVE SEX, I CAN'T EVEN THINK...
SLIDE
WAIT, TANIGAWA!
THAT'S WHY I—
!?
(Reeee

WHEN I FIRST KNEW YOU WERE GAY, I WAS REALLY SURPRISED.
BUT WHEN I GOT TO KNOW YOU, LISTENING TO YOUR TALK ABOUT LOVE,
BECAUSE YOU USED TO LIKE GIRLS.
AND I THOUGHT MY FEELINGS FOR YOU WERE ALL ONE-SIDED ON MY PART,
I BEGAN TO ENVY ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO WENT OUT WITH YOU.
I HOPED YOU WOULD BEGIN TO LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT TOO...

SO WHEN YOU CONFESSED TO ME,
I WAS REALLY HAPPY.
TANI-GAWA...

WHEN YOU LOVE YOUR PARTNER,
AS MUCH AS YOUR PARTNER LOVES YOU, IT'S BLISS.
AH!
OH YEAH, WHAT ABOUT THE HOSPITAL? IS YOUR HAND ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, SENSEI SAID IT WOULD BE BEST IF I WENT TO THE INFIRMARY TO MAKE SURE.
I'll go tomorrow
IN THAT CASE, I'LL GO WITH YOU.
MMM ...
THRUST
AHH!
SQUISH
AHH!
AHH!
SQUISH
AAHHH ...
THRUST
THRUST
THRUST

A SATISFACTORY FEELING WHEN YOU HOLD THE PERSON YOU LOVE IN YOUR ARMS...
TANI-GAWA~
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THINGS AREN'T ANY DIFFERENT AT SCHOOL.
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU NOT TO TOUCH ME!
Doesn't learn
■ END ■
<SFX: SWISH>


THAT'S TRUE, ESPECIALLY WITH COUPLES WHO'VE BEEN DATING FOR A WHILE.
IT'S TRUE, ACTING COLD AFTER HAVING SEX PISSES PEOPLE OFF.
BUT WHEN YOU'RE ALL CLINGY, PEOPLE CAN'T TAKE IT EITHER.

AAAHHH
...

pant
pant
pant
GETS UP
...

...
HASHIMOTO, TISSUE.
OH, THANK YOU.
HOW ABOUT A SHOWER?
HM? NO.
PUT THIS ON.
OKAY
FLOP
NIGHTY-NIGHT THEN.
Sleeping over tonight
MAKINO, YOUR HAIR'S GROWN LONGER.
TOUCH
YOUR HAIR'S SO SOFT, LIKE A CAT'S.
YOU SMELL REALLY GOOD.
STROKE
HUH? YOU HAVE A MOLE ON THIS SIDE.
STROKE
YOU USE A DIFFERENT SHAMPOO WHEN YOUR HAIR GETS LONG, HUH?
!!

HAPPY END?

初めまして、こんにちは。羽原の初コミックスです！わ～い、嬉しいな♡　お買い上げありがとうございます！！！　さて、『遅く咲く花』以外の作品説明などを少し。

＊僕たちの距離＊
不器用で朴訥とした攻を描きたくて出来た話。ホントはもっとボケッとしたキャラをイメージしてたんですが、それだと話が進まなくて（笑）。
＊充足理由律＊
同人誌掲載作品です。一人称「ぼく」を使う受が好きで、ほんやりした可愛い感じの子を描きたいな～と思って出来た話。攻の子はヘタレで･･（笑）。「好き」って気持ちを態度に表す子も好きだし、態度に出せないけど、ものすご～く相手のことを好きだってパターンも好きなので、それを両方入れてみました。

途中のトークページでも書いたけれども、クール受が好きで、なおかつメガネ好きなので『遅く咲く花』の橋本は描いてて楽しかったです。でもクールっていうよりイジワルキャラになってしまったけど…。今後の目標は、ヘタレじゃない攻を（笑）描くことです！！！目指せ鬼畜攻！（無理そう･･。）

原稿を手伝ってくれたＭ子たんとサークル相方ぶんさんありがとう！今回コミックス発行の機会を作って下さった、編集のＳ木さまもありがとうございました！
そして読者の皆様も読んで下さってありがとうございます。全ての出会いに感謝しつつ、またお会い出来ることを願って…。

羽原ちより　個人サイト→→→http://c-plume.com/

J
JIGOKU

OSOKU SAKU HANA - CHAP 5 & EXTRA

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JIGOKU